ENCLOSURE 2

TRANSCRIPTS: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2 LICENSE RENEWAL PUBLIC MEETING (AFTERNOON)

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title:

Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2

License Renewal Public Meeting

Docket Number:

50-368

Location:

Russellville, Arkansas

Date:

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Work Order No.:

NRC-1279

Pages 1-27

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1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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4	PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING
5	PROCESS FOR ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2
6	LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
7	+ + + +
8	TUESDAY,
9	FEBRUARY 3, 2004
10	+ + + +
11	RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS
12	+ + + +
13	The Public Meeting convened in the Holiday
14	Inn at 2407 North Arkansas Avenue, Russellville,
15	Arkansas 72801 at 1:30 p.m.
16	
17	Present on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory
18	Commission:
19	CHIP CAMERON
20	JOHN TAPPERT
21	THOMAS KENYON
22	STACEY IMBODEN
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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2 1:30 p.m. Can everybody hear me? 3 MR. CAMERON: 4 Okay, it is on. Welcome to the NRC's Public Meeting today. 5 6 My name is Chip Cameron and I'm the Special Counsel 7 Public Liaison at the Nuclear 8 Commission and it's my pleasure to serve as the 9 facilitator for the meeting today. In that role, I'll 10 try to help all of you to have a productive meeting. 11 I can say personally that it's always nice to be back in Arkansas, so I'm glad to be here and I 12 13 thank you all for coming out to the meeting this 14 afternoon. 15 Our subject is going to be the NRC environmental review that is part of the Nuclear 16 17 Regulatory Commission's evaluation of a request that 18 we received from Entergy to renew the operating 19 license for Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 and I just wanted 20 to say a couple of words about format for the meeting 21 and ground rules and introduce the NRC speakers before 22 we got started. 23 The format for the meeting, we're going to

The format for the meeting, we're going to basically divide into two parts and these two parts really match our objectives today. The first part is

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to provide you with some clear information about the NRC's license renewal process and specifically about the environmental review part of that process and to answer any questions that you might have about that.

The second part of the meeting is to give us an opportunity to listen to you about any comments, recommendations, advice that the NRC should use in terms of deciding what types of issues, what types of data they should look at in preparing the draft environmental impact statement on the license renewal application.

In terms of things that we hear today, they're going to have the same weight as any written comments that we receive and the NRC staff will be telling you in a few minutes about the process for submitting written comments. But we do have Ms. Peggy Brown, right here, who is going to transcribe the meeting so that we will have a record of what is said today.

The ground rules are real easy. If you have a question, just give me a signal and I'll bring you this cordless mic and if you could give us your name and affiliation, if appropriate, we'll try to answer your question to the best that we can.

When we get to the formal comment part of

the meeting, in order that we can make sure that we hear from everybody, I would just ask you to limit formal comments to a five to seven minute guideline. I don't think we're going to have any crunch today in terms of time, so we can be flexible with that.

And let me just introduce the NRC staff who are going to be talking to you today. We're going to go in a minute to Mr. John Tappert who is right here. And John is the Chief of the Environmental Section in our Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at the NRC and John and his staff do the environmental reviews, they supervise the environmental reviews for any reactor activity that needs environmental impacts looked at.

John has been with the NRC for about 13 years. He was an NRC resident inspector before that. These are the people, and we have them at ANO, our staff that are there to make sure that NRC regulations are complied with. John was in the Nuclear Navy before that and his Bachelor's degree is in Aeronautic and Ocean Engineering from Virginia Teach. And he has a Master's in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

After John's welcome and a little bit of background, we're going to go to Mr. Tom Kenyon from

the NRC who's here, one of the people who work for John. He's a project manager on the Arkansas Nuclear License Renewal at this point. He's been with the Agency forever, as we say, about 23 years now. He's been involved over that time in a lot of different activities, including being a project manager for operating reactors and also involved in the advanced design certification activities that we do. And Tom has a Bachelor's in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Michigan. And he's going to give you sort of an overview of the entire license renewal process.

And then we're going to go to the NRC staff member who is specifically responsible for the oversight of the preparation of the environmental review on this license renewal application and that's Ms. Stacey Imboden, who's right here. Stacey is one of our newer staff members. She's been with us for two and a half years and she has a Bachelor's in meteorology from Penn State University and a Master's in Environmental Engineering from Clemson University.

So we'll go -- we're going to have John talk and then Tom and I think we're going to be fairly brief, so maybe we can hold the questions until all three of the speakers are done and then we'll go on to

7 1 your questions. 2 John? 3 MR. TAPPERT: Thank you, Chip, and good 4 afternoon, everyone. 5 My name is John Tappert and on behalf of 6 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I'd like to thank 7 you for coming out here today and participating in 8 this process. 9 Now we're not going to attempt to compete 10 with the Super Bowl half time show, but I hope that 11 you will find our presentations to be informative and 12 helpful and we look forward to receiving your 13 comments, both today and in the future. 14 I'd like to start off today by briefly 15 going over the agenda and purposes of today's meeting. 16 Next slide. 17 First of all, we'd like to give you a 18 brief overview of the entire license renewal process. 19 This includes both the safety review as well as an 20 environmental review which will be the main focus 21

Then we'll give you additional information about how we are going to perform our environmental review which will assess the impacts associated with extending the operating license for Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 2 for an additional 20 years.

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1 Then we'll give you some information about 2 the balance of our schedule and how you can submit 3 comments in the future. And then we get to the real 4 heart of today's meeting which is to receive any 5 comments that you may have today. 6 First, let me provide some background for 7 the license renewal process itself. 8 Next slide. 9 The Atomic Energy Act gives the NRC the 10 authority to issue operating licenses to commercial 11 nuclear power plants for a period of 40 years. 12 Unit 2, that operating license will expire in 2018. 13 Our regulations also make provisions for extending 14 those operating licenses for an additional 20 years as 15 part of our license renewal program. And Entergy has 16 requested license renewal for Unit 2.

Now you might notice I'm only talking about Unit 2 right now and if you're familiar with the site, you realize there's two units, Unit 1 and Unit 2. And the reason we're not talking about Unit 1 today is because Entergy has previously requested and received a license extension for Unit 1 on that operating license until 2034.

So as we review Entergy's request for Unit

2 we are performing reviews and one of those reviews

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1	is the environmental review. And right now we're in					
2	what we call the scoping portion of that review where					
3	we seek to identify those issues which will require					
4	the greatest focus in our environmental impact					
5	statement. And this public meeting here today is an					
6	important part of that scoping process.					
7	Now after we get finished with the scoping					
8	process and do our initial assessment, we will publish					
9	a draft environmental impact statement and we will					
10	come here again in the fall to have another public					
11	meeting to receive your comments on that draft.					
12	And again, just to refocus what the major					
13	purpose today is is to receive any comments that you					
14	may have today on the scoping process.					
15	And with that, I'd like to ask Tom to give					
16	us some additional information on the safety review.					
17	MR. KENYON: Thank you, John. As John					
18	mentioned my name is Tom Kenyon and I'm the					
19	Environmental Project Manager for the ANO 2 license					
20	renewal review.					
21	Now before we get into a discussion of the					
22	license renewal process, I'd like to take a minute to					
23	talk about what the mission of the Nuclear Regulatory					
24	Commission is or what we call the NRC and discuss what					

it is that we do.

1 The NRC's mission is really threefold. 2 First, it's to protect the health and safety of the 3 public. Second is to protect the environment. 4 third, is to provide for the common defense and 5 security. Now we accomplish our mission through a combination of regulatory programs and processes such 6 7 as inspections, enforcement actions, assessments of 8 licensee's performance and the evaluation of operating 9 experience of nuclear plants throughout the United 10 States. 11 Now the NRC's license renewal review is 12 very similar to the original licensing process that we 13 used when we licensed the plant some time ago and it 14 involves two parts: a safety review and 15 environmental review. 16 I'm going to focus on what we considered 17 during our safety review for the next couple of 18 minutes. 19 There are two types of safety issues that 20 we look at. Current operating issues which are dealt 21 with now and then aging management issues that we deal 22 with in our reviews of license renewal. 23 The NRC's regulatory oversight under the 24 current operating license deals with the current

safety issues and these are issues such as security or

emergency preparedness. And so we don't wait for the plant to come in for a license renewal request before we deal with those issues. We deal with them now in current time.

Because we're dealing with them now, we do not re-evaluate them in the license renewal review, rather, our safety review for license renewal focuses on the aging management issues and the programs that Entergy has in place to maintain its equipment.

Now when we complete the safety review for the license renewal, we will issue a safety evaluation report that is independently reviewed by a special Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards or what we call the ACRS.

Now that committee is a group of academic and industry experts that look at both the application that is submitted by Entergy and then they look at the results of our review that we publish in the SER and they provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with their own independent evaluation and recommendations, independent of the rest of the NRC staff.

Now although Stacey Imboden will discuss the environmental review in detail shortly, there's a couple of key points I wanted to mention at this point having to do with our environmental review. The

environmental review evaluates the impact of a number of different environmental areas including the ecology, hydrology, cultural resources and socioeconomic issues. Now part of that environmental review includes what we call the scoping process during which we identify those environmental issues that we think are appropriate to be addressed for the ANO 2 plant.

During that scoping process, we ask the public to provide us with their input as to what they think we should be looking at in terms of the environmental review. Tonight's meeting is -- today's meeting is part of that scoping process and Stacey will discuss the process in more detail in a few minutes.

Next slide.

Now this next slide illustrates the entire license renewal process. As you can see, this slide shows both the parallel paths of both types of review I was just talking about. The upper path shows the safety review process which involves the NRC staff's review and assessment of the technical information that's contained in Entergy's license renewal application.

We have a team of about 30 people back at

the NRC headquarters in Washington, D.C. right now performing the safety evaluation review. They are focusing on the effectiveness of the proposed aging management programs that are contained in the application.

The NRC staff reviews these aging management programs to ensure that the plant can be maintained and operated safely for the license renewal term which is the additional 20 years that they've requested.

Now the results of the staff's safety review will be documented in the safety evaluation report. You can see and as I've mentioned earlier that will also be looked at by the ACRS in their review.

Now the safety process also involves audits and on-site inspections which are conducted by a team of inspectors pulled together from both the NRC headquarters as well as the regional offices. And the results of these inspections are issued in separate inspection reports.

Now the lower path shows how we perform the environmental review and as I mentioned earlier that involves the scoping activities which we are currently involved in. Once we conduct our review we

will issue a draft supplement to the generic environmental impact statement, or what we call the GEIS, which documents the results of our environmental review. We will issue that supplement, draft, for comment and we'll be back here in about a year to discuss the results of our review.

Eventually, we will issue a final version of that draft -- of the supplement report that will address the comments that we received during our review process.

So as you can see from the slide, the final agency decision on whether to approve or deny the application comes from a number of reviews that we conduct. The results can be found in the inspection reports. They can be found in our safety evaluation report which addresses the safety review and they can found in the supplement to the generic environmental impact statement which addresses our environmental reviews, as well as the independent report from the ACRS. All of these various assessments are considered when the final Agency decision is made.

Now one point I'd like to make is that the splash marks shown on the slide indicate the opportunities for public participation. The first

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opportunity during the environmental review occurs during the scoping process which this meeting is part of. During the scoping process, members of the public can provide us with their input as to what they think the scope of our review should include. Then the next opportunity during the environmental review is after we've issued the draft supplement to the GEIS and there will be another comment period for providing us with that input.

Separately, if there's a petition filed to intervene in this process by an individual or group, and if they have adequate standing, in other words, if their request for a hearing is granted by either the Atomic Safety Licensing Board or the NRC Commission itself, then a hearing may be granted. The hearing would be presided over by a panel of Administrative Law Judges and it would involve contentions, discovery and cross examinations, just like in a court trial.

However, nobody has requested a petition, has submitted a petition to intervene on the ANO 2 proceedings. So there will not be a hearing.

And that ends my presentation on the overall review process. Next, let me turn the microphone over to Stacey Imboden who is working with me on this project and who will provide you with the

details of the environmental review process. 1 2 Stacey? 3 MS. IMBODEN: Good afternoon. I am Stacey 4 Imboden and I'm a project manager on the NRC staff. 5 Tom Kenyon and I are responsible for coordinating the 6 activities of the NRC staff and experts at national 7 labs to develop an environmental impact statement for 8 the license renewal of Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2. 9 The National Environmental Policy Act of 10 1969 requires -- I'm sorry, can I have the next slide? 11 The National Environmental Policy Act of 12 1969 requires that federal agencies follow 13 evaluating systematic approach in potential 14 environmental impacts associated with certain actions. 15 We are required to consider the impact of the proposed 16 action and also any mitigation for those impacts that 17 we consider to be significant. We're also required to 18 consider alternatives to the proposed action, in this 19 case license renewal, and that includes the no-action 20 alternative. In other words, if we decide not to 21 renew the license at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, 22 what will the environmental impacts be? 23 The National Environmental Policy Act and 24 our environmental impact statement are disclosure 25 They are specifically structured to involve

public participation and this meeting is a part of facilitating the public's participation in our environmental review.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has determined that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for proposed license renewal of nuclear power plants. In preparing an EIS, the NRC conducts a scoping process. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify significant issues that are to be analyzed in depth. We are now gathering information for the EIS and are here to collect public comments on the scope of our review. What special issues should the NRC staff consider when developing the environmental impact statement for the renewal of Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2?

The staff developed a generic EIS that addressed a number of issues that are common to all power plants that come to us for license renewal. We are supplementing that generic EIS with a site specific EIS that will address environmental impacts specific to this individual site.

The staff also evaluates the conclusions reached in the generic EIS to determine if there is any new and significant information that would change any of those conclusions.

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| Next slide.

This slide shows our decision standard for our environmental review and this is the legal language describing our decision standard. And what that basically means is that in the environmental impact statement we determine if license renewal is acceptable from an environmental standpoint.

Next slide, please.

This slide is just an expansion of the lower portion of a slide that Tom had up a few moments ago. It describes the environmental review process in greater detail. We received Entergy's application for the license renewal of Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, on October 15, 2003. On December 22, 2003, we issued a Federal Register Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement and conduct scoping process.

This started a 60-day clock defined as the scoping comment period and we are within the scoping comment period right now.

This meeting is a part of the scoping process so that we can get comments from the public to help us scope out the bounds of our environmental review. At the end of the scoping comment period which is February 20th, we will issue a scoping

summary report that will address all of the comments 1 2 that we received from all sources during the review. 3 This week, members of the NRC staff and a 4 team of experts from Pacific Northwest National Lab are conducting an environmental site audit to help 5 gather information for the scoping process. 6 If in the conduct of our review, 7 require information beyond what was already provided 8 to us in the initial application, we will issue a 9 request for additional information. 10 We expect to 11 issue that request for additional information on March 12 26, 2004. Approximately eight weeks later, we expect 13 14 to hear back from Entergy on those requests. At that time, based on all of the information that we have in 15 16 hand, we will publish a draft of the environmental impact statement for public comment. 17 We envision publishing the draft of the 18 19 environmental impact statement in September 2004 and at that time it will go out for a 75-day public 20 21 comment period. 22 We plan to have another meeting here in Arkansas in October 2004 to receive public comments on 23 the draft EIS. Once we get comments on the draft EIS, 24 we will publish it in final form in April 2005.

Next slide.

This slide shows some of the sources where we gather information during our review. In addition to our site audit, we communicate with federal, state and local officials, as well as local service agencies. One example of our communications is later this week we have a meeting with the State Historic Preservation Officer in Little Rock, Arkansas. And we consider all of the comments that we receive from the public as well.

Next slide.

For this review, we've established a team made up of members of the NRC staff and experts from Pacific Northwest National Lab. And this slide gives you an idea of some of the areas that these experts evaluate. Some of these areas are terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, archeology and radiation protection.

Next slide, please.

This slide just recaps a couple of the key milestone dates in our schedule. As mentioned, we are currently in a scoping comment period which ends on February 20, 2004. All comments from this transcribed public meeting will be considered.

Tom mentioned the generis EIS, the generic

environmental impact statement for license renewal. That's an environmental impact statement that takes into account issues that affect all power plants that come to us for license renewal. We will be publishing an Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, site-specific supplement to the generic EIS called a SEIS. That supplement will be issued in draft form in September with a 75-day public comment period. After considering your comments on the draft, we will publish it in final form in April 2005.

Next slide.

This slide identifies Tom Kenyon and I as your primary points of contact on the NRC staff for the preparation of the environmental impact statement. It also identifies where documents related to the review can be found in the local area. The Ross Pendergraft Library at Arkansas Tech University has agreed to make the license renewal application available, along with all correspondence from NRC to Entergy and other agencies regarding the environmental review.

The draft environmental impact statement will also be available at the library when it is published later this year.

And these documents are also available on

22 NRC's website and that web address is www.nrc.gov. 1 2 In addition, as you came in, you were 3 asked to fill out a registration card at our reception 4 desk and if you have provided your address on that 5 card, we will mail you a copy of the draft and final 6 environmental impact statements. 7 Next slide. 8 In addition to providing comments at this 9 meeting, there are other ways that you can submit 10 comments on our environmental review process. You can 11 provide written comments to the Chief of our Rules and 12 Directives Branch and that will ensure that your 13 comments get into our public record. You can make 14 comments in person if you happen to be in Rockville, 15 Maryland. 16 We've established a specific e-mail 17 address at the NRC for the purpose of receiving your 18 comments on the draft environmental impact statement 19 and what you think the scope of our review should be. 20 That e-mail address is anoeis@nrc.gov. All of your 21 comments will be collected and considered. 22 This concludes my remarks. And now Tom

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much, Stacey and Tom. And we do have a question right

Kenyon and I are available to answer any questions.

MR. CAMERON:

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Thank you, thank you very

1	now here. And if you could just give us your name,
2	sir?
3	MR. LEONARD: My name is Bob Leonard. I'm
4	with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. I was
5	just curious. Will you send us all a copy of the
6	notes and comments that you receive at these meetings
7	to the people you have there on your list?
8	MS. IMBODEN: If you have provided your
9	address on the card at the reception desk, all of the
10	comments will be in the scoping summary report and the
11	draft environmental impact statement. And you will
12	receive copies of those if you have provided your
13	address.
14	MR. LEONARD: You've already been sending
15	correspondence to me, so I assume you've got it.
16	MS. IMBODEN: Okay.
17	MR. CAMERON: Okay, and we are going to
18	have a transcript from this meeting also so that if
19	you want to have a look at the straight transcript, in
20	addition to our summary, we can send you a copy of
21	that too.
22	All right. Great. Other questions for
23	Stacey or Tom?
24	Any information we could provide you that
25	would help you with any written comments that you

1	might want to file?
2	Okay, let's go and give us your name
3	again?
4	MR. LEONARD: Bob Leonard again, Game and
5	Fish. You're going to have some transmission lines
6	associated with this, correct?
7	MS. IMBODEN: Yes.
8	MR. LEONARD: Will you be providing some
9	maps here today for the routing of those transmission
10	lines?
11	MR. CAMERON: We're going to go out in the
12	audience here and try to get some information on that.
13	Anything from the NRC before we go out here?
14	MR. KENYON: You're talking about
15	you're here for a specific review? Go ahead.
16	MR. CAMERON: Let's get you on the
17	transcript here.
18	MR. BUCKLEY: Rick Buckley, Entergy, and
19	you can find a copy of the map in the ANO 2 ER. There
20	will be a map showing that.
21	MR. CAMERON: And the ER is environmental
22	review. Okay. Report. Environmental Report. All
23	right.
24	Does that give you everything you need to
25	know? All right. Terrific.

1 Other questions? I'm going to stay right 2 here. 3 (Laughter.) 4 Seriously, do you have anything else? 5 Anybody else have information? Because if you're 6 interested in looking at the report and everything, 7 even if you're not going to file comments, if there's 8 any information that we can offer to help you with 9 that, this is the -- this is not the only time to ask 10 a question because I think Stacey, you gave us your 11 contact information. 12 MS. IMBODEN: Yes. And Tom's. 13 MR. CAMERON: So if you do have comments or questions in the future call Stacey, but is there 14 15 anybody else who has a question at this point? 16 Okay. Thank you, Stacey. Thank you, Tom. 17 Thanks, John, for injecting that humor about the Super 18 Bowl. 19 (Laughter.) 20 This is the second part of the meeting 21 where we usually, where we always ask people to give 22 us their advice, recommendations. We didn't have 23 anybody sign up in advance to give us any formal 24 comments, but we would like anybody who wants to talk

now to be able to do that.

1 Does anybody have anything to tell us 2 about what types of issues we should be looking at? 3 Are there any transmission line issues that you think 4 that we should be specifically concerned about? 5 MR. LEONARD: That would be site specific, 6 depending on how you go with the transmission lines. 7 Aren't they currently in use right now? 8 MR. CAMERON: Transmission lines and we're 9 getting --I'll put this on the record, the 10 transmission lines currently are in use right now. 11 Okay. 12 Anything else like that that would be --13 that we should know about? Okay, we're going to be here tonight, 6 14 15 o'clock open house; 7 o'clock public meeting to do 16 this again and we certainly welcome all of you to come 17 back and join us. 18 John, I always ask John, as our leader to 19 close out the meeting for us. John, do you want to do 20 that? 21 MR. TAPPERT: Sure. Thanks again for 22 coming out. We'll be back again tonight and if you 23 have any written comments, we'll be accepting them 24 until February 20th. So I appreciate your time and 25 that's it.

1		MR. CAMERON:	We	're adj	ourned	. Tha	ink you.
2		(Whereupon,	at	2:02	p.m.,	the	public
3	meeting was	concluded.)					
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ENCLOSURE 3

TRANSCRIPTS: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2 LICENSE RENEWAL PUBLIC MEETING (EVENING)

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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7:00 p.m.

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

1 2 3 MR. CAMERON: My name is Chip Cameron and 4 I want to welcome you to the NRC's (Nuclear Regulatory 5 Commission's) Public Meeting tonight. 6 8 that we have a constructive meeting tonight.

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I'm going to be your facilitator for the meeting and my responsibility will be to try to ensure

The meeting is on the NRC's environmental review; one part of the NRC's evaluation of the request that we had from the Entergy Company to renew the operating license for Arkansas Nuclear (ANO) Unit 2.

And in terms of format we're going to have basically a two-part format for the meeting and they match the objectives for the meeting. The first part we're going to try to give you some information, clear information about the NRC's license renewal process and specifically the environmental review part of that process and to answer any questions that you might have.

The second part of the meeting is an opportunity for us to hear from any of you who want to give us comments, recommendations, advice, concerns on items that we should look at in doing the -- preparing

the draft environmental impact statement.

We are going to take written comments on these issues, but anything you say to us tonight will carry the same weight as the written comments. And we are transcribing the meeting. Peggy Brown is our transcriptionist and that will be our record of the meeting. If anybody needs a copy of that, we'll be glad to provide it.

And the ground rules are very simple. During our discussion, after the presentations, if you have a comment or question, just signal me and I'll bring you this cordless microphone. Give us your name and affiliation, if appropriate, and we'll try to answer your questions.

Usually, when we have the formal comment part of the meeting we set a five to seven minute guideline, but I don't think we have to worry about being pressed for time tonight.

And with that, just let me introduce the NRC speakers. First of all, we're going to have a welcome from Mr. John Tappert who is right here. And John is the Chief of the Environmental Section in our Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation back in Rockville, Maryland at NRC Headquarters and John and his staff oversee the preparation of any environmental

reviews on reactor licensing issues, including license renewal applications like this one.

John has been with the Agency for 13 years. He has been one of our resident inspectors and before that he was with the Nuclear Navy, our Nuclear Navy, I guess I should emphasize.

(Laughter.)

And he has a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautic and Ocean Engineering from Virginia Tech and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

After John gives us a brief welcome and some information on license renewal, we're going to go to Mr. Tom Kenyon who is on John's staff and he's a project manager on this license renewal application. He's been with the NRC for 23 years and has been involved in advance design certification. He's served as a project manager for various operating reactors, has a wealth of experience and Tom has a degree from the University of Michigan, a Bachelor's degree in Nuclear Engineering. And he's going to talk about the license renewal process overall.

And then we're going to get to the specifics of the environmental review process and we have Stacey Imboden who is right here. She's also on

John's staff. She's a Project Manager on this license renewal application and she's been with us just a couple of years, about two and a half, exactly. Stacey comes to us with a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Clemson University and her Bachelor's is in Meteorology. I'm sure I pronounced that right, but the weather, from Penn State.

And with that, John?

MR. TAPPERT: Thank you, Chip, and good

MR. TAPPERT: Thank you, Chip, and good evening and welcome. Welcome back to those returning from this afternoon's meeting.

As Chip said, my name is John Tappert and on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I'd like to thank you for coming out and taking time out of your evening and participating in this process.

I hope that the information that we will share with you this evening will be helpful and we look forward to receiving your comments, both tonight and in the future.

Now we want to start by briefly going over the purposes and agenda of tonight's meeting. First of all, we'd like to give you a brief overview of the entire license renewal process. This includes both the safety review as well as an environmental review

which will be the principal focus of tonight's meeting. Then we'll give you some additional information about how we will conduct that environmental review which will assess the impacts associated with extending the operating license for Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 2 for an additional 20 years.

Then we'll give you some information about the balance of our review schedule and how you can submit comments in the future and then we get to the major part of today's meeting which is to receive any comments that you may have tonight.

First, let me provide some background for the license renewal process itself. The Atomic Energy Act gives the NRC the authority to issue operating licenses to commercial nuclear power plants for a period of 40 years. For Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, that operating license will expire in 2018. Our regulations also make provisions for extending that operating license as part of our license renewal program. And Entergy has requested license renewal for the Unit 2.

Now you notice I've been talking about Unit 2 and those familiar with the Arkansas Nuclear One Station know that there's two reactors there. And

the reason for that is that previously Entergy has 1 2 requested license renewal and received an extension on 3 that operating license until 2034. 4 So for Unit 2 we will now develop an 5 environmental impact statement assessing the impacts 6 of extending the operation of the plant. Right now 7 we're early in that process in what we call scoping 8 where we seek to identify those issues which will 9 require the greatest focus in our environmental impact 10 statement. 11 Now after we complete the scoping process 12 do review, we will develop a draft and our 13 environmental impact statement and return to the 14 community later this year to present our findings. 15 So with that brief introduction, I'd just 16 like to reiterate the purpose of today's meeting is to 17 receive any comments that you have tonight and I'd 18 like to ask Tom to give us some more details on the 19 safety review. 20 Tom? 21 MR. KENYON: Thank you, John. As John 22 Tom Kenyon and mentioned my name is I'm the 23 Environmental Project Manager for the ANO 2 license renewal application. 24

Now before we get into a discussion of the

license renewal process, I'd like to take a few minutes to talk about the Nuclear Regulatory's mission and what it is that we do.

The NRC's mission is really threefold. It is to ensure the adequate protection of the health and safety of the public. It is to provide, protect the environment and to provide for the common defense and security. The NRC accomplishes this mission in a number of different ways and through programs and processes such as inspections, enforcement actions, assessment of licensee performance and the evaluation of operating experience of the various nuclear plants throughout the United States.

Now the NRC's license renewal process is very similar to the original licensing process that was used to license ANO 2 and it involves two parts, a safety review and an environmental review. And I'm going to focus on what we considered during our safety review for the next couple of minutes.

There are two types of safety issues that we look at. There are current operating issues which are dealt with now and then there are the aging management issues that we deal with as part of our license renewal review. Now the NRC's regulatory oversight under the current operating license deals

with the current safety issues and these are issues such as emergency planning or security. And we're dealing with those issues now, rather than waiting until an applicant comes in and requests a renewed license.

Because the NRC is dealing with those

Because the NRC is dealing with those issues, we do not re-evaluate them as part of our license renewal review. Rather, our safety review for license renewal focuses on aging management issues and the programs that Entergy has in place to maintain its equipment.

When we complete the safety review for license renewal, we will issue a safety evaluation report that is independently reviewed by a special Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards or what we call the ACRS.

Now that committee is a group of academic and industry experts that look at both the application that is submitted by Entergy and then they look at the results of our review that's in the SER and they provide the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with their findings and recommendations independent of the NRC staff.

Now although Stacey Imboden will discuss the environmental review in detail shortly, I just

want to talk about a couple of key points regarding how we do the environmental review. When we perform our environmental review, we look at a number of different areas such as the ecology, the hydrology, cultural resources and socio-economic issues. Now part of that environmental review includes what we call the scoping process during which we identify those environmental issues that should be included in the scope of our review at this point. And as John mentioned, this meeting is part of the scoping process and Stacey will discuss this process in more detail in a few minutes.

Now this next slide will illustrate the entire license renewal process. As you can see, this slide shows the two parallel paths that I mentioned. The upper path shows the safety review process which involves the NRC staff's review and assessment of the technical information that's contained in Entergy's application.

We have a team of about 30 NRC technical reviewers back at our headquarters in Washington, D.C. that are conducting the safety review right now. They are focusing on the effectiveness of the proposed aging management programs that are contained in the application.

The NRC staff reviews these aging management programs to ensure that the plant can be maintained and operated safely throughout the license renewal term which is really just the additional 20 years of operation that they've requested.

Now the results of the staff's safety review will be documented in the safety evaluation report. You can see that there and as you can see that report is provided to the ACRS for their review and comment.

Now the safety process also involves audits and on-site inspections and these inspections are conducted by a team of inspectors that are pulled together from both the NRC headquarters as well as the regional offices and the results of their inspections are documented in separate inspection reports.

Now the lower path shows how we perform the environmental review and as I mentioned earlier it involves the scoping activities which we are conducting right now. We will then develop a draft supplement to the generic environmental impact statement, or GEIS, which documents the results of our review. And eventually, we will issue the draft report for comment and we will issue a final version of the supplement to the GEIS once we've addressed all

the comments that we've received.

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So as you can see from the slide, the final agency decision on whether to approve or deny the application will factor in the results of a number of different reviews. The results can be found in the inspection reports, in the safety evaluation report which addresses the safety review and the final supplement to the GEIS which addresses our environmental review as well as in the independent of these various from the ACRS. All assessments are considered when the final Agency decision is made.

Now one point I'd like to make is that the splash marks shown on the slide indicate the opportunities for public participation. The first opportunity during the environmental review is during the scoping process as we've discussed in which this meeting is part of. Now during the scoping process, members of the public can provide us with their insights either during this meeting or in writing up until February 20th. The next opportunity during the environmental review is when we request comments on the draft supplemental report.

Now separately, if there's a petition filed to intervene in this process by an individual or

group, and if they have adequate standing, in other 1 2 words, if their request to intervene is granted by either the Atomic Safety Licensing Board or by the 3 Nuclear Regulatory Commission itself, then a hearing 4 5 may also be involved in this process. The hearing would be presided over by a panel of Administrative 6 7 Law Judges and it involves contentions, discovery and 8 cross examinations, just like in a court trial. 9 However, there were no petitions to intervene on 10 the ANO 2 proceedings. 11 And that ends my presentation on the overall review process. Let me turn the microphone 12 over to Stacey Imboden who is working with me on this 13 14 review and who will talk about the details of the 15 environmental review process. MS. IMBODEN: Thank you, Tom. I am Stacey 16 Imboden and I'm a project manager with the NRC. 17 Can I have Slide 6? Tom Kenyon and I are 18 19 responsible for coordinating the activities of the NRC staff and experts in various fields from national labs 20 to develop an environmental impact statement for the 21 22 license renewal of Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2. 23 The National Environmental Policy Act of 24 requires that federal agencies follow 1969

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evaluating

approach

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potential

environmental impacts associated with certain actions. We are required to consider the impact of the proposed action and also any mitigation for those impacts that we consider to be significant. We're also required to consider alternatives to the proposed action, in this case license renewal, and that includes the no-action alternative. In other words, if we decide not to renew the license at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, what will the environmental impacts be?

The National Environmental Policy Act and our environmental impact statement are disclosure tools. They are specifically structured to involve public participation and this meeting is a part of facilitating the public's participation in our environmental review.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has determined that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for proposed license renewal of nuclear power plants. In preparing an EIS, the NRC conducts a scoping process. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth. We are now gathering information for the EIS and are here to collect public comments on the scope of our review. What special issues should the NRC staff consider when developing the environmental

impact statement for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2?

The staff developed a generic EIS that addressed a number of issues that are common to all power plants that come to us for license renewal. The

6 Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 site-specific EIS that

7 | will address environmental impacts specific to this

8 | individual site.

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The staff also evaluates the conclusions reached in the generic EIS to determine if there is any new and significant information that would change any of those conclusions.

staff is supplementing that generic EIS with an

Next slide.

This slide shows the decision standard for our environmental review and this is just the legal language for our decision standard. And what it's basically saying is that in the environmental impact statement we determine if license renewal is acceptable from an environmental standpoint.

Next slide.

This slide is just an expansion of the lower portion of a slide that Tom had up a few moments ago. It shows the environmental review process in greater detail. We received Entergy's application for the license renewal of Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit

1 2, on October 15, 2003. On December 22, 2003, we 2 issued a <u>Federal Register</u> Notice of Intent to prepare 3 an environmental impact statement and conduct scoping 4 process. 5 This started a 60-day clock defined as the 6 scoping period and we are within the scoping period 7 right now. 8 This meeting is a part of the scoping 9 process so that we can get comments from the public to 10 help us scope out the bounds of our environmental 11 At the end of the scoping period which is 12 February 20, 2004, we will issue a scoping summary 13 report that will address all of the comments that we 14 receive from all sources during the scoping process. 15 This week, members of the NRC staff and 16 experts from Pacific Northwest National Lab are 17 conducting an environmental site audit to help gather 18 information for the scoping process. 19 If during the conduct of the review, we 20 determine that we need additional information beyond 21 what was already provided to us in the initial 22 application, we will issue a request for additional 23 information and we expect to issue that request on 24 March 26, 2004.

Approximately eight weeks later, we expect

1 to hear back from Entergy on those requests. At that time, based on all of the information that we have in 2 3 hand, we will publish a draft of the environmental 4 impact statement for public comment. We envision publishing the draft of the 5 environmental impact statement in September 2004 and 6 7 at that time it will go out for a 75-day public 8 comment period. 9 We plan to have another meeting here in 10 Arkansas in October to receive your comments on the 11 draft environmental impact statement. Once we get 12 comments on the draft environmental impact statement, 13 we will publish it in final form in April 2005. 14 Next slide. 15 This slide shows some of the sources where we gather information during our review. In addition 16 17 to our site audit, we communicate with federal, state, 18 and local officials, as well as local service 19 agencies. One example of our communications is later 20 this week we have a meeting with the State Historic 21 Preservation Officer in Little Rock, Arkansas. And we 22 consider all of the comments that we receive from the 23 public as well.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

For this review, we've established a team

Next slide.

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made up of NRC staff supplemented by experts in various fields from Pacific Northwest National Lab. And this slide gives you an idea of some of the areas that these experts evaluate. Some of these areas are terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, archeology and radiation protection.

Next slide.

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This slide just recaps a couple of the key milestones in our schedule. As mentioned, we are currently in a scoping comment period which ends on February 20, 2004. All comments from this transcribed public meeting will be considered.

Tom mentioned the GEIS, the generic environmental impact statement for license renewal. That's an environmental impact statement addresses issues that are common to all power plants that come to us for license renewal. We will be publishing an Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 specific supplement to the GEIS called a SEIS. That supplement will be issued in draft form in September with a 75day public comment period. After considering your comments on the draft, we will publish it in final form in April 2005.

Next slide.

This slide identifies Tom Kenyon and I as

your primary points of contact on the NRC staff for the environmental review. It also identifies where documents related to the review can be found in the local area. The Ross Pendergraft Library at Arkansas Tech University has agreed to make the license renewal application available, as well as any correspondence sent by NRC to Entergy or other agencies regarding the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 review.

The draft environmental impact statement will also be available at the library when it is published later this year.

And these documents are also available on NRC's website and that web address www.nrc.gov.

In addition, as you came in, you were asked to fill out a registration card at the reception desk and if you have provided your address on that card, we will mail you a copy of the draft and final environmental impact statements.

Next slide.

In addition to providing comments at this meeting, there are other ways that you can submit comments on our environmental review process. You can provide written comments to the Chief of our Rules and Directives Branch and that will ensure that your comments get into our public record. You can also

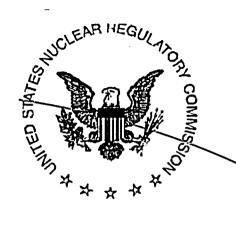
1 make comments in person if you happen to be in 2 Rockville, Maryland. 3 We've established a specific e-mail address at the NRC for the purpose of receiving your 4 5 comments on the draft environmental impact statement 6 and what you think the scope of our review should be. 7 That e-mail address is anoeis@nrc.gov. All of your 8 comments will be collected and considered. 9 This concludes my remarks. And now Tom 10 Kenyon and I are available to answer any questions. 11 MR. CAMERON: Great. Thank you, Stacey 12 and thanks, Tom. 13 Can we answer any questions for any of you 14 about this process or how you participate in it, what 15 we're going to be looking at, when we prepare the 16 environmental review? 17 Any questions at all at this point? 18 (No response.) 19 This is the time of the meeting where we 20 look to you for formal comment and usually we have 21 people signed up to give us some comments. We don't 22 have anybody who has signed up. That doesn't mean 23 that anybody who wants to give us any type of formal 24 comment now on what we should look at in the scope of

the environmental review can't say anything. Anybody

1	want to say anything at this point?
2	(No response.)
3	Okay, the NRC staff and some of our
4	experts from the national lab, we have them with us
5	tonight. They're available to talk to you after the
6	meeting about various subjects. So I think that
7	that's probably the end of the meeting.
8	And John, do you want to say anything
9	before we close at this point? Okay, well, thank you
10	all for being here and we're adjourned.
11	(Whereupon, at 7:24 p.m., the meeting was
12	concluded.)
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ENCLOSURE 4

SLIDES: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2



Environmental Scoping Meeting Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

February 3, 2004



Purpose of Today's Meeting

- > Discuss NRC's license renewal process
- > Describe the environmental review process
- > Identify environmental areas that the staff typically evaluates
- > Provide the review schedule
- > Accept any comments you may have today
- > Describe how to submit comments



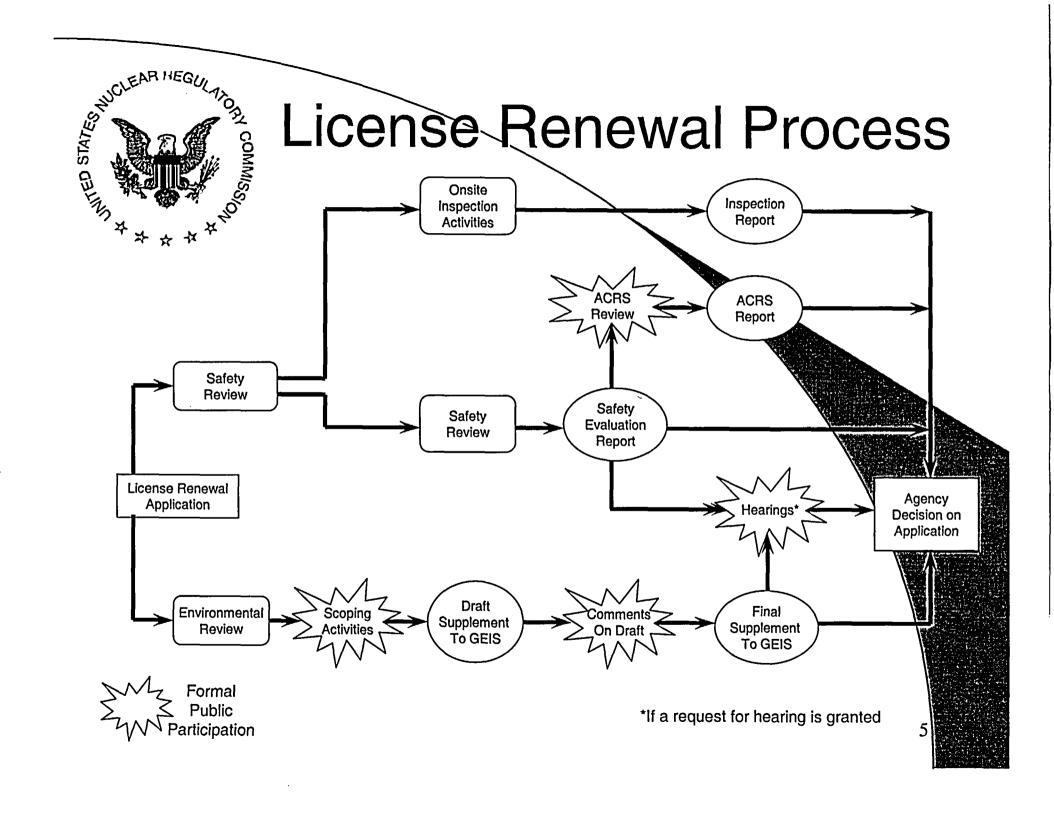
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 License Renewal

- > Current operating license expires 7/17\2018
- ➤ Application requests authorization to operate Unit 2 for an additional 20 years



NRC's License Renewal Review

- > Safety review
- > Environmental review
- > Plant inspections
- > Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)





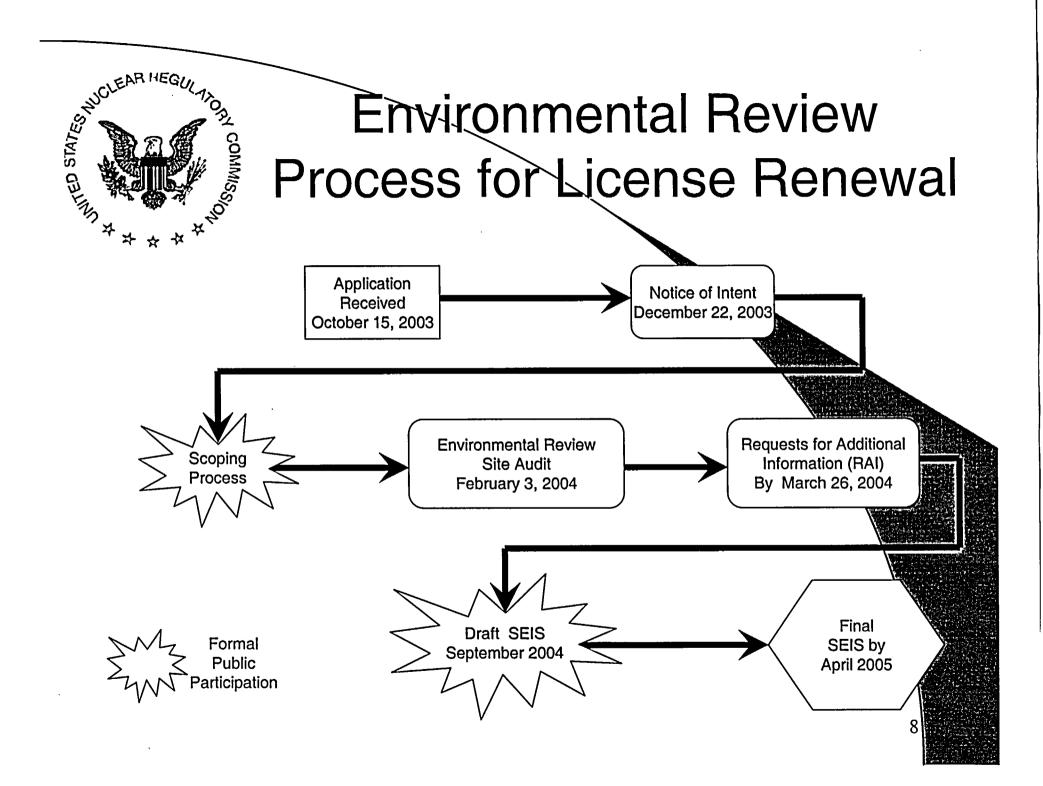
National Environmental Policy Act

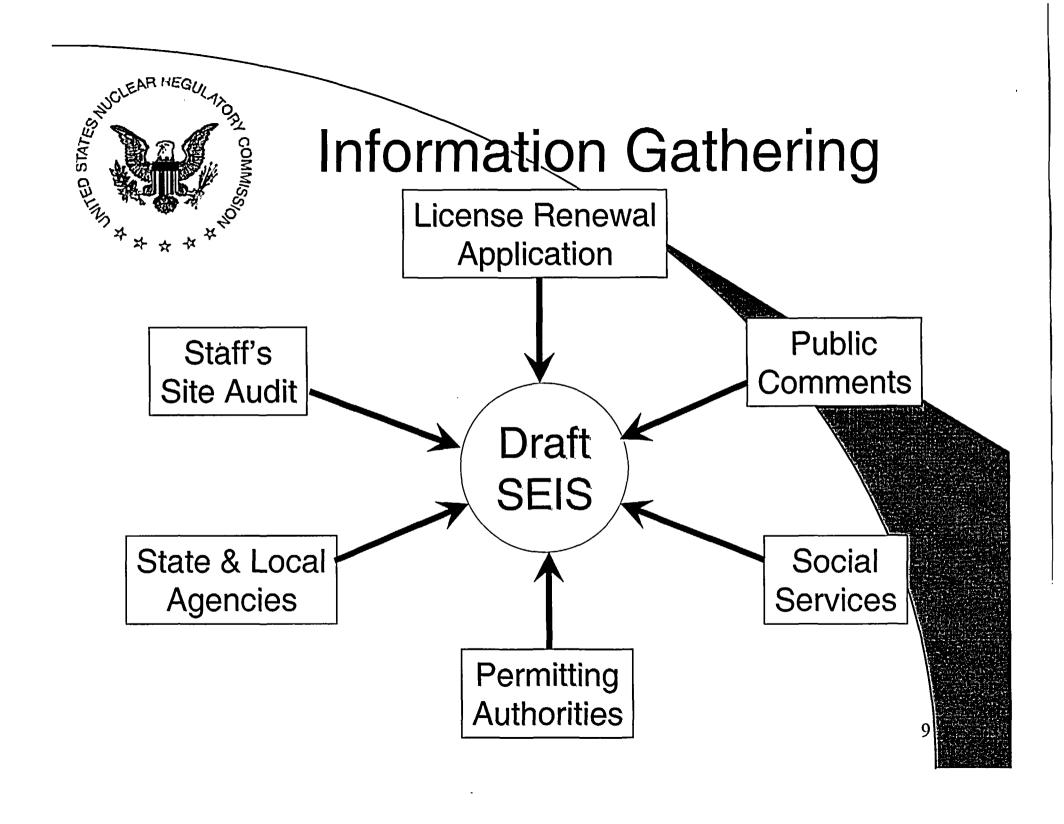
- > NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- > An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment
- Commission has determined that a supplement to the "Generic EIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" will be prepared for a license renewal application.



Decision Standard for Environmental Review

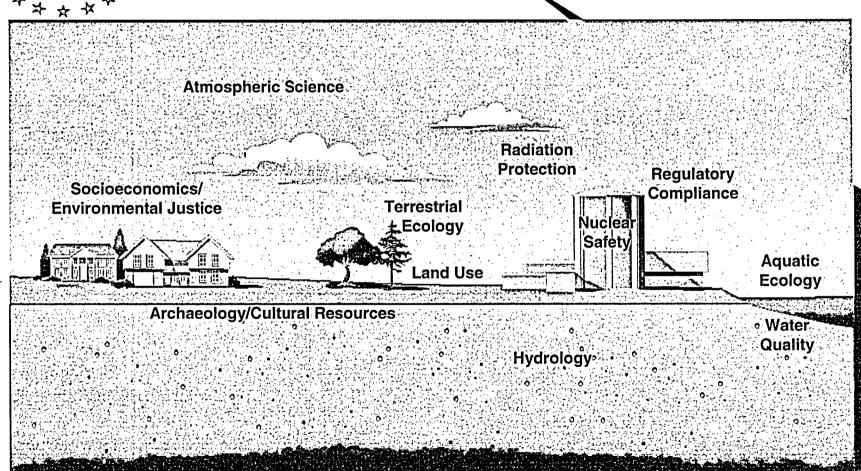
To determine whether or not the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 are so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.







Team Expertise





Environmental Review Milestones

> Scoping & Comment period -12/22/03 to 2/20/04

➤ Issue draft SEIS – September 2004

➤ Issue final SEIS – April 2005



Point of Contact

> Agency points of contact:

Thomas Kenyon

Stacey Imboden

(800) 368-5642

- ➤ Documents are located at the Ross Pendergraft Library at Arkansas Tech University
- Documents can also be viewed at the NRC's Web site (www.nrc.gov)



NRC Addresses

Provide written comments:

> By mail at: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch

Division of Administrative Services

Mailstop T-6D59

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555

➤ In person at: 11545 Rockville Pike

Rockville, Maryland

➤ E-mail at: ANOEIS@nrc.gov

